

Claims

1. A method for tracking and determining volume, shape and surfaces of objects simultaneously, comprising the steps of

- 330 - capturing an electronic image or series of images of objects
- simultaneously locating objects in the real 3D world
- electronically processing the images to obtain a set of data representing the size, shape, surface and location of the objects in the real 3D world

335 2. A system for tracking and determining volume, shapes and surfaces of objects simultaneously, comprising

- a camera system for capturing an electronic image of the stack
- a computer system operatively connected to or incorporated in the camera system
- 340 - a data interface for transmitting the image or data derived from the image to the computer system
- the computer system being programmed to electronically process the image to obtain a set of data such as a complete 3D reconstruction representative of the volume, shape and surface of individual
- 345 logs
- the computer system being programmed to electronically process the image to obtain a set of data representative of the volume of the stack.

3. A system according to claim 2, further comprising

- 350 - a GPS system for capturing the location and direction of the load and unload device.

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4. A system according to claim 2 or 3, further comprising

- a computer system operatively connected to or incorporated in the GPS system.

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5. A system according to claim 2 - 4, further comprising

- a data interface for transmitting the GPS data derived to the computer system.

6. A system according to any of the claims 2 - 5, wherein

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- the computer system being programmed to electronically process the data to obtain a set of location data of the individual logs.

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